# Global Trends in Government eLearning

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# **Agenda**

- Overarching themes, issues and developments
- Global Perspective
  - Key global trends
  - Developments in industrialized world
  - Issues and developments in developing world
- U.S. Perspective
  - Milestones in Federal Use of eLearning
  - Recent Trends and Initiatives
  - Legislative Developments





### Overarching themes, issues and developments



## **Extensive reach and scope**

#### **Objective:**

#### **eLearning Adoption**

Stimulate social & economic development

Improve efficiency of government operations

Bridging Urban-Rural Divide (*location*-driven)

Bridging Digital-Divide (*income*driven) Government eLearning Role & Influence

Internal use of eLearning in government agencies

Support for eLearning in schools and universities (at federal, state and local level)

Support for life long learning (adults)

Support for eLearning Research & Development

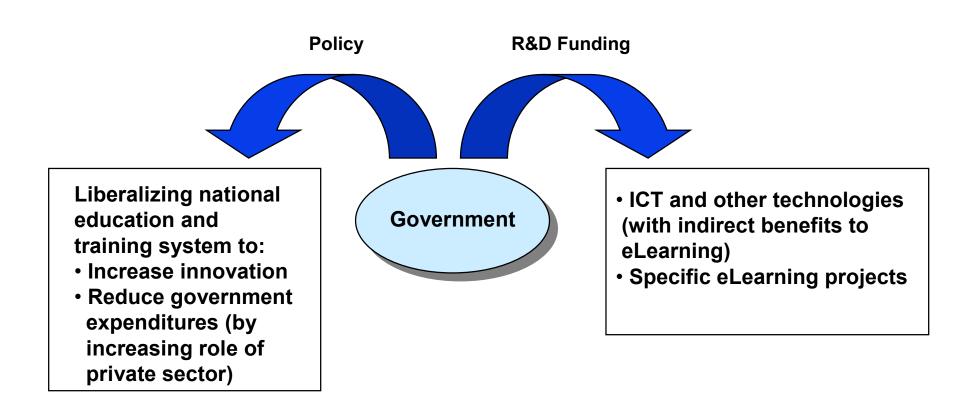
Funding of eLearning programs of World Bank and regional development banks







## **Direct or indirect influence**



ICT: Information, Communications and Telecommunications

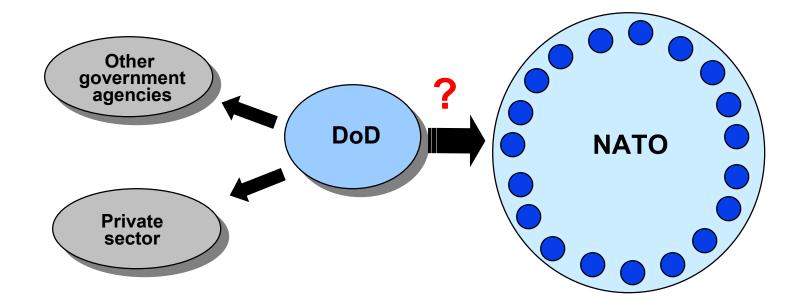




## Overarching themes, issues and developments

# Department of Defense as early adopter & catalyst



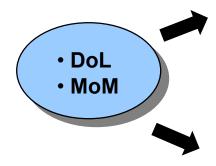






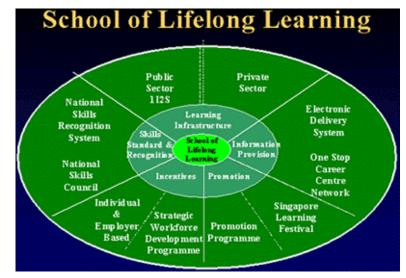
# Department/Ministry of Labor/Manpower: Another catalyst





### **America's Learning Exchange**

- A browser-enabled user interface
- A set of interconnected content databases
- An undergirding application layer, structured around an expert system







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# **Key Global Trends**

- Growing Government recognition of needs & opportunities in eLearning
  - Reduced costs; extended training reach; improved time-to-competency; etc.
  - Supporting emerging growth sector; export education & training services;
     eLearning as new form of foreign aid
  - Increase flexibility and range of choice in learning opportunities; support life-longlearning







# Key Global Trends, Cont'd

- Growth in public-private eLearning partnerships
  - Government recognizing benefits of leveraging private sector expertise, technology and capital
  - Reduces public sector investments
  - Accomplish public policy goals more effectively and efficiently
  - Easier to gain political support for publicprivate initiatives







# Key Global Trends, Cont'd

Indirect channel of influence of governments on eLearning initiatives:

- Growing role of World Bank, regional development banks and other NGOs in eLearning
  - Recognizing need to support human capital development as key to sustainable economic development
  - eLearning enables easier and better utilization of distributed knowledge resources
  - Shift from television-based distance learning to eLearning with greater opportunities for collaboration and interaction





# **EU Commission: Catalyzing eLearning across EU?**



- Has potential for boosting interest and investment in eLearning through its role in policy and R&D
- Numerous channels of influence, including:
  - eLearning initiative under its "eEurope" group of projects
  - As part of Socrates & Leonardo da Vincir programs
  - As part of Eureka research program
    - Comprehensive integration of ICT into education & training
    - Create flexible infrastructures that will make eLearning available to all
    - Promote universal digital literacy
    - Create culture of lifelong learning
    - Develop high quality European educational content







# **UK: Setting the pace**

- University for Industry (UFI):
  - LearnDirect Web site: Delivering work-related content to consumers and corporations (Sainsbury, Unipart, ...)
  - LearnDirect Futures: Online career advice service
  - Learning Centers: Operating over 1200 learning centers
- eUniversity Goals include:
  - Expand UK global market for higher education (HE) eLearning
  - Provide new ways of delivering HE in the UK
  - Encourage new thinking and new approaches to HE in the UK
  - Create opportunities for private-public partnerships in eLearning





# **Germany: Awakening eLearning Giant**



- Dramatic educational reforms good sign for future eLearning growth and opportunities
- "Lifelong Learning as Utility" (L3):
  - Goal: Create organizational and technical infrastructure enabling everybody to continue learning throughout their careers (similar to nkn in Norway and UFI in UK)
  - Hybrid model with physical centers and online learning resources and administrative facilities
  - Government has spent \$20 million to date on pilot program
  - Also intended to help create national eLearning champion?





# Developing World: eLearning to bridge knowledge gaps



- OECD countries, World Bank, regional development banks and others offering assistance to build networks and create appropriate content
- Multinational companies and government agencies as early adopters of eLearning
- Growing interest by eLearning companies around the world in serving emerging markets
- Challenge: Dealing with slow bureaucracies







# Selected development networks

- World Bank: Embracing eLearning to meet training needs
- Growing use of Web and eLearning by global development networks, including:
  - Global Gateway
  - Global Development Learning Network
  - Global Knowledge Partnership









## **Proliferation of Virtual Universities**

- Southeast Asian Ministers of Education
   Organization developing project for Virtual
   Campus System
- Open University of Catalonia (six-year-old virtual university in Barcelona) linking up with university in Argentina
- Growing African Virtual University
- Tunisian Virtual University collaborating with North American and European universities







## China: The new eLearning frontier

- 38 universities have so far been authorized to run online education; 22,400 undergraduate students enrolled in online programs\*
- Plans for over 100 universities offering online programs in 5 years, with 4 million students\*
- Financial sector, telecommunications and other sectors planning eLearning programs
- Numerous universities and eLearning companies making collaborative deals



\* Source: Zhu Zhiting; Professor, East China Normal University

Learning on Demand



## **U.S.** Historical Milestones

- Armed Forces/DoD an Early Adopter/Innovator
- ADL Initiative (launched 1997) nurtured industry
- 1999 Executive Order jumpstarted Agency adoption
- Web-based Education Commission put eLearning on education policy agenda







## **U.S. Perspective: History**

## Federal eLearning Initiatives

- America's Learning Exchange (ALX)
- Federal Learning Exchange (FLX)
- FasTrac
- Graduate School, USDA
- Other agency initiatives underway include IRS, GSA, HHS







### **U.S. Perspective: Recent Trends**

## **High Adoption by Agencies**

- ASTD Study:
  - 71% of agencies will use Internet to deliver learning in 2002; 78% will use intranets
- Government Computer News Survey:
  - 71% say their agency offers eLearning
  - 61% say they have taken online course







## **U.S. Perspective: Recent Trends**

## **Armed Forces Initiatives**

- eArmyU (announced Dec 2000)
  - Largest eLearning Initiative to date
  - Coalition of vendors led by PwC
- Navy eLearning (launched May 2001)
  - 1.2 million learners
  - Portal hosted/managed by ThinQ
- National Guard DTTP Project







#### **U.S. Perspective: Recent Trends**

## Federal Research Support for eLearning

- NIST
  - Convergent Information Systems Division
  - Advanced Technologies Program
- ADL
  - SCORM
  - Customized Learning Experience Online (CLEO) Lab







### **U.S. Perspective:** Legislation

## **Legislative Initiatives**

- HR 1992 "The Internet Equity and Education Act of 2001"
  - Would lower barriers to higher-education eLearning
  - Approved by House in early October
- S 487 "Technology, Education, and Copyright Harmonization (TEACH) Act of 2001"
  - Eases copyright restrictions that hamper eLearning in K-12
  - Passed Senate in September

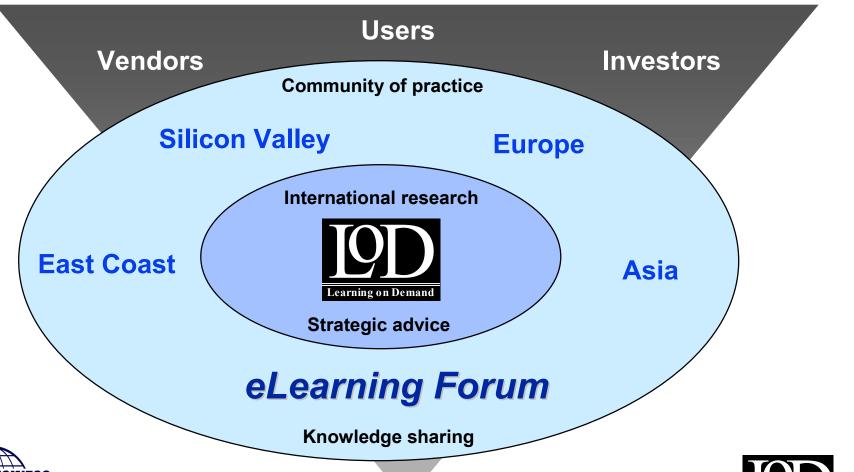






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